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**TESTIMONY  
JENN JENNINGS  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
CONNECTICUT HEATING & COOLING CONTRACTORS (CHCC)  
BEFORE THE  
GENERAL LAW COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 21, 2012**

The Connecticut Heating & Cooling Contractors Association (CHCC) **supports Section 19 of HB-5054, AN ACT MAKING MINOR AND TECHNICAL CHANGES TO DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION STATUTES**, which allows individuals to reinstate an occupational license that he/she has failed to renew within two years rather than one year.

In order to obtain an occupational license, individuals must complete a rigorous apprenticeship training program along with classroom training and successfully pass an examination. Under current, an individual who fails to renew their occupational license within one year of expiration is required to retake their licensing examination if they wish to reinstate their license. This creates an unduly burdensome process for license holders as well as the department.

Given the amount of time and training individuals devote to obtaining an occupational license, the current law unfairly penalizes individuals who have failed to renew with the department due to difficult circumstances. Many individuals have had to leave Connecticut to find work to help support their families. Others have had to pursue other jobs because jobs in our industry were scarce. This bill simply recognizes that there are circumstances that arise that result in difficulties in renewing a license. Allowing reinstatement within two years will assist the examining boards, the Department and license holders in streamlining the reinstatement process.

**We therefore urge your support for Section 19 of HB-5054.**

*CHCC is a trade association whose objectives are to strengthen and further trade relations, attract, educate and train necessary manpower, represent members at all levels of government and review and establish quality standards and procedures. The association represents over 125 Heating & Cooling Companies in Connecticut.*

*For more information, please contact Jennifer Jennings at CHCC, 2842 Main Street, #259, Glastonbury, CT 06033 or [jjennings@chcca.net](mailto:jjennings@chcca.net), Tel., 860-533-1163, [www.chcca.net](http://www.chcca.net).*